

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 01 FEB 2005



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Applicant's or agent's file reference 11136P3 WORH	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/04411	International filing date (day/month/year) 10.10.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 12.10.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C11D3/02		
Applicant RECKITT BENCKISER INC et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 - ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - II ☐ Priority
 - III ☒ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI ☐ Certain documents cited
 - VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 26.03.2004	Date of completion of this report 02.02.2005
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Grittem, A Telephone No. +31 70 340-2459 

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I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17):*

Description, Pages

1-15 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-25 filed with telefax on 22.04.2004

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

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III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application,

☒ claims Nos. 18, 21-25

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):

☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 18, 21-25 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

see separate sheet

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☒ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 18, 21-25

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the Standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the Standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	12, 14, 16, 17
	No: Claims	1-11, 13, 15
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-17, 19, 20
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-17, 19, 20
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

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Re Item III**Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability**

Claim 18 has not been examined because it does not comply with Rule 6.2a PCT.
Claims 21-25 do not comply with Chapter 5.35 of the PCT Guidelines, because they define the invention by a result to be achieved.

Re Item V**Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Reference is made to the following documents;

D1: WO-A-9855587

D2: JP-A-08311487

D3: WO-0182694

2. D1 discloses an all purpose cleaner comprising 0.25 to 7 % of an anionic surfactant, 0.1 to 10 % of a cosurfactant (i.e. a glycol ether), 0.5 to 10% of a saturated acid, 0.1 to 5 % of an alkali metal hydroxide, 0.1 to 8 % of a solubilizing agent (i.e. a C2-C4-alcohol) and water (all percentages given as weight-%) (see claims 1-13, example 1). The free saturated fatty acid reacts with a part of the hydroxide to form soap surfactant (see page 8, lines 23 to 28).

D2 discloses a cleaner for removing baked oil dirt and grease comprising sodium and/or potassium hydroxide, glycol ether solvent(s), surfactant(s) and water.

The surfactant contains at least 50 % of an anionic surfactant(s) (see the abstract).

As present claims 1 and 9 are related to an aqueous hard surface cleaning and/or sanitizing composition, they are not limited to germicidal compositions.

Therefore the subject-matter of claims 1-11, 13, 15 is not novel (Art. 33 (2) PCT).

D1 also proposes to include bactericides in the compositions (see page 15, lines 1-5) and the subject-matter of claims 19 and 20 thus does not involve an inventive step (Art. 33 (3) PCT).

Dependent claims 12,14,16 and 17 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and inventive step, the reasons being as follows:

The features of dependent claims 12 and 16, have already been employed for the same purpose in a similar composition and process, see document D3 (page,17, lines 13-22 and page 19. lines 28-31, table 2, run-no.2.6, claims 1, 11 and 19). It would

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therefore be obvious to the person skilled in the art, to apply these features with corresponding effect.

In claims 14 and 17 a slight constructional change is defined which comes within the scope of the customary practice followed by persons skilled in the art, especially as the advantages thus achieved can readily be foreseen. Consequently, the subject-matter of claims 14 and 17 also lacks an inventive step.
